



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

SPW/JK

In re patent application of

Keisuke Ban

Serial No.: 10/726,685

Docket No. 02410265D1

Filed: December 4, 2003

Group Art Unit No.: 1725

Examiner: Lin, Kuang Y.

For: **CASTING METHOD AND CASTING APPARATUS**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 through §1.99 and pursuant to applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, applicant respectfully brings the following document, cited in a European Search Report and listed on the attached form PTO-1449, to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application. A copy of the cited foreign references is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

This citation does not constitute an admission that the reference is relevant or material to the claims. It is only cited as constituting related art of which the applicant is aware.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication received from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

It is respectfully requested that the listed references be considered by the Examiner and formally made of record in this application.

A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed as payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). Please charge any deficiencies in payment and credit any overpayments to Attorney's deposit account no. 23-1951.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	Attorney Docket No.: 02410265D1	Serial No: 10/726,685
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT		
(Use several sheets if necessary)	Page 1 of 1	Applicant: Keisuke Ban
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		Group: 1725

## REFERENCE DESIGNATION

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES	NO
	2000-167646	06-20-2000	Japan	---	---	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Abstract	<input type="checkbox"/>
	7-155897	06-20-1995	Japan	---	---	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Abstract	<input type="checkbox"/>
	EP 1 153 678 A1	11-14-2001	Europe	---	---	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)**

European Search Report dated September 10, 2004

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.